

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARAMA 00272 080100Z

21

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 IO-14 FEA-02 INT-08 SCI-06 GSA-02

AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SP-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06

SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-07 SS-20 STR-08 CEA-02 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 L-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /225 W

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R 071610Z JUN 74

FM AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1686

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMCONSUL CURACAO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARAMARIBO 272

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EIND, NS, NL

SUBJECT: MINISTER PRONK ON NATIONALIZATION OF SURINAM

BAUXITE INDUSTRIES

REF: THE HAGUE 2804; PARAMARIBO 257, 265 (NOTAL)

1. POST APPRECIATES BACKGROUND ON PRONK'S THINKING, CONTAINED IN REFTEL.

2. PRONK'S REMARKS, AS QUOTED IN PRESS REPORTS HERE, SEEMED TO GIVE GREATER SUPPORT FOR BAUXITE COMPANY NATIONALIZATION THAN VIEWS EXPRESSED IN REFTEL. HIS PRIVATELY EXPRESSED DISCLAIMER THAT HE WAS NOT TALKING ABOUT SURALCO WHEN DISCUSSING NATIONALIZATION OF SURINAM'S BAUXITE INDUSTRY UNFORTUNATELY IS NOT HELPFUL. IN SIZE AND OPERATIONS SURALCO IS MANY TIMES LARGER THAN BILLITON, THE ONLY OTHER BAUXITE COMPANY

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PAGE 02 PARAMA 00272 080100Z

IN BUSINESS HERE, AND IN THE SURINAM CONTEXT A REFERENCE

TO "BAUXITE COMPANIES" BRINGS SURALCO TO MIND FIRST AND FOREMOST. FURTHERMORE, GOS ALREADY HAS OPTION TO ACQUIRE ONE FOURTH OF BILLITON IN EXCHANGE FOR PARTICIPATION IN GOS-REYNOLDS JOINT VENTURE.

3. POST NOTES PRONK'S HOPE THAT USG WILL JOIN IN A CONTINUED AID PROGRAM TO SURINAM. WE HAVE FOUND IT USEFUL IN TALKS WITH GOS OR GON OFFICIALS, WHEN THIS SUBJECT ARISES, TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THEY SHOULD NOT COUNT ON USG ASSISTANCE TO SURINAM. THIS OF COURSE IS IN LINE WITH USG POLICY ON SURINAM AS EXPRESSED IN SUCCESSION OF SURINAM CASP DOCUMENTS.

4. POST WILL TRY TO ENSURE PRONK RECEIVES SURALCO BRIEFING.
JOHNSTON

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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